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A.—(*a*) Seven public and three private.

(*b*) Tanjore, Chingleput, the Nilgiris, Malabar, North Arcot and Coimbatore.

(*c*) During the public tours, inspections, interviews and addresses in connexion with the departments of Government, particularly of those in his charge.

(*d*) He did not and there was no occasion for it.

(*e*) He paid for his three private tours from his own pocket.

(*f*) Does not arise.

Agriculture

Propagation of scientific improvements in agriculture.

*302 Q.—Rao Bahadur Sir A. P. PATRO: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state the steps taken by Government to spread scientific knowledge, i.e., the results of experiments said to have been made at the agricultural stations among the ryots and the masses?

A.—The hon. Member's attention is invited to paragraphs 184—298 of the administration report of the Department of Agriculture for 1926-27 and to the corresponding section on 'Demonstration' in former administration reports and the monthly digests published by the Department. The Government have also sanctioned two exhibition motor lorries fitted up with magic lanterns and a large number of exhibits designed to advocate better methods of cultivation, manuring, etc. These exhibition lorries can be taken to the most out-of-the-way villages for purposes of demonstration.

Fisheries

Researches made by the Fisheries department.

*303 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) the names of the fishery vessels and trawlers maintained by Government, with (1) their tonnage, (2) their original cost, (3) the object of their purchase or building, (4) the annual cost of maintaining them during the three years ending 31st March 1928, (5) the present condition of each and the purposes for which each was employed in the year 1927-28 and up to the close of the month of June 1928;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the "Lady Nicholson" was built for work connected with research, pearl and chank fishing, and if so, what is the amount of work done by her in those directions;

(*c*) why the newly arrived fishing trawler "Lady Goschen" is being fitted up for research work; and

(*d*) what have been the researches made by the Fisheries department on the sea and whether these results have been published?

A.—(*a*) A list of vessels and trawler maintained by the Fisheries department together with the information required regarding them is enclosed (Appendix A).[a]

(*b*) The "Lady Nicholson" was built for the inspection of pearl banks and research relating to the pearl and chank fisheries. The series of five successful pearl fisheries held recently at Tuticorin was the direct result of the inspection of the banks

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a Printed as Appendix VI on page 580 infra.

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conducted by "Lady Nicholson" in 1923, and during the subsequent years. She was commissioned for the inspection of Laccadive Islands by the Revenue Department in 1922, 1924 and 1926. She was also engaged for towing the pearl fishery boats in the recent pearl fisheries.

(c) The motor launches that are in the Department are small and cannot be engaged for distant deep sea fishing or research in the sea, as they are not suited for that purpose. The "Lady Nicholson" which was built for the pearl bank inspection, and other duties connected with the pearl and chank fisheries is not suitable for deep sea fishing, or for general marine fishery research. The trawler has therefore to be fitted up to undertake the research contemplated.

(d) A list of publications embodying the results of researches made by the Fisheries department on the sea is enclosed (Appendix B).[a]

Cost, etc., of the trawler "Lady Goschen."

* 304 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) the cause of the bursting of the boilers of the "Lady Goschen" as stated in the recent report;

(b) the total amount spent on her as regards (i) purchase, (ii) equipment, repairs, addition and alteration, (iii) establishment, (iv) bringing her out to India, and (v) other expenses since her arrival in India;

(c) the main original object for which she was purchased; and

(d) the purposes for which she has been employed, at what cost, and with what profit up to end of June 1925?

A.—(a) The boilers did not burst but only some of the boiler tubes. In January 1927 a few of her boiler tubes burst; subsequently, the Lloyds Surveyor at Colombo who examined the engines on 16th February 1927, described all the boiler tubes as requiring renewal and they were all renewed. He attributed the deterioration to the excessive rusting during the period the vessel was laid up at Inverness from the time she was built till she was sold.

(b) The total amount spent on the vessel so far is—

	RS.
(i) to (iv) Purchase, equipment, repairs, addition and alterations done in England and navigation to India and repatriation of crew ..	1,04,456
(v) Running expenses of trawler in 1926–27 excluding salary and travelling allowance of Captain Cribb and pay and travelling allowance of the establishment	35,907
Expenses in 1927–28 as above	43,673
Cost of fishing gear and nets obtained from England in 1928 through Director-General of Stores, London	7,405
Total ..	1,91,441

a Printed as Appendix VI on page 581 infra.